IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Yoichi OKANO

Examiner:

Unassigned

Serial No.:

Unassigned

Group Art Unit:

Unassigned

Filed:

Herewith

Docket:

17236

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Nov. 17, 2003

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 223131450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

- 1. JP Patent Kokai Publication No. JP-P2001-22831A, dated January 26, 2001;
- 2. JP Patent Kokai Publication No. JP-P2002-183598A, dated June 28, 2002;

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express Mail Post Office to Addressee service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria,

VA 22313-1450.

Dated: November 17, 2003

Paul J. Esatto, Jr.

- 3. JP Patent Kokai Publication No. JP-2002-99840A, dated April 5, 2002;
- 4. JP Patent Kokai Publication No. JP-2002-230411A, dated August 16, 2002; and
- 5. JP Patent Kokai Publication No. JP2002-7679A, dated January 11, 2002.

Applicant is submitting copies of the above-cited references. The relevance of the above-identified references has been described in the specification. Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no petition, certification or fee is required.

Consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul J. Esatto, Jr., Reg. No. 30,749

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Docket Number (Optional) Application Number 17236 Unassigned Applicant(s) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION Yoichi OKANO (Use several sheets if necessary) Filing Date Group Art Unit Herewith Unassigned **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** *EXAMINER FILING DATE CLASS SUBCLASS DATE NAME REF DOCUMENT NUMBER INITIAL IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Translation CLASS SUBCLASS DOCUMENT NUMBER REF DATE COUNTRY YES NO 1/26/01 Japan 2001-22831 2002-183598 6/28/02 Japan 4/5/02 Japan 2002-99840 8/16/02 Japan 2002-230411

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

Japan

1/11/02

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

2002-7679